

June 12, 1969

Dr. John A. Young
Denver Research Institute
University of Denver
University Park
Denver, Colorado 80210

Dear Dr. Young:

As indicated in Dr. Kelly's letter of May 7, 1969 to you, I have been asked to reply to your letter of May 2. It is true that Monsanto is very interested in the reports about possible harmful effects of chlorinated biphenyls on wild life. For nearly a year we have been developing a program to answer some of the questions which have arisen. For example, we now have the necessary instruments, personnel and experience for analytical determination which we believe is second to none in the world. We have visited in the states and abroad the chemists who identified polychlorinated biphenyl as interfering substances in pesticide residue analysis. Although we have not analyzed as many samples as yet as some of the scientists abroad, we do now have the same capacity and expertise.

We have a number of toxicity studies underway at our consulting laboratories which have long been associated with Monsanto. Included in the program are classical chronic toxicity studies as well as a number of specific studies due to the uniqueness of the situation in question.

We are a long way from results which might lead to comprehensive environmental studies and which might include the fate of chlorinated biphenyl in the ecosystem, although a number of in-house projects are underway and under consideration.

We do thank you for your indicated interest in proposing a research program.

Very truly yours,

Elmer P. Wheeler
Manager, Environmental Health

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